

Meeting Date: July 24, 2008

Agenda Item No. 24

Agenda Item: Region 1 – Sullivan acquisition

Approved by:

Prepared by: Katherine Cousins and Gregg Servheen

Background:

The 24-acre Sullivan property borders the southern edge of Smith Creek and Boundary Creek WMA. It is being acquired as an addition to the Boundary Creek WMA through the Albeni Falls wildlife mitigation program. It will be managed as part of the Boundary Creek WMA, with operational costs paid for by the mitigation program.

The property is approximately 20 miles north of Bonners Ferry and borders the southern edge of the Smith Creek and Boundary Creek Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs).

A portion of the property is covered by the alluvial fan formed by Smith Creek as it transitions from a high gradient stream to the nearly level floodplain. The lowest portion of the property floods seasonally and it contains shrub and forested wetland habitats.

A modular home and pole barn are located on the property. Both buildings are less than 10 years old and well maintained.

Adequate operational and seasonal personnel funds exist in the existing BPA supported budget to operate the property. Disposition of the modular home and pole building will be used to either meet an important regional or IDFG need or disposed of. The pole barn would be retained for equipment storage.

The property was previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session in January 2008.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Land acquisition in accordance with Commission land acquisition policy.

Public Involvement Process:

County commissioners and the Kootenai Tribe have been notified and support the acquisition. The public will be informed and contacted for their input regarding management of the property.

Staff Recommendation:

The Lands Committee recommends proceeding with the acquisition.